

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01 RSR-01 /139 W
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R 091110 Z APR 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2874

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 1056

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR XF

SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL DENOUNCES US, CALLS FOR ARAB
ECONOMIC POLICY TOWARDS COUNTRIES SUPPORTING
ISRAEL

REF: CAIRO 1033

1. APRIL 8 AHRAM, WHICH CARRIED MOST COMPLETE REPORTING OF
ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS, HAD FOLLOWING ARTICLE ON
PAGE ONE:

QUOTE: THE COUNCIL OF THE ARAB LEAGUE DENOUNCED THE
POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TOWARDS THE ARAB
CAUSE AND THE ARAB NATION. IT SAID THAT THIS POSITION HAS
ELIMINATED ANY HOPE IN THE POSSIBILITY OF EFFECTING ANY
CHANGE IN THE (US) POSITION TOWARD THE ARAB STRUGGLE TO
LIBERATE THE OCCUPIED LAND AND RESTORE THE RIGHTS OF THE
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PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

" THE COUNCIL ASSERTED THE NECESSITY OF THE ARAB STATES TAKING A UNIFIED STANCE POLITICALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND COMMERCIALY TOWARD THE US AND STATES SUPPORTING ISRAEL. IT ALSO STATES THAT THE HOSTILE POSITION OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE ARAB NATION WILL NECESSARILY LEAD TO THE LOSS OF (US) INTERESTS IN THE ARAB STATES.

" THIS STATEMENT CAME IN THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH THE LEAGUE ISSUED YESTERDAY (APRIL 7) AFTERNOON AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE NEW SESSION WHICH BEGAN MARCH 21. THE COUNCIL DECLARED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE REPORT OF SECRETARY- GENERAL MAHMOUD RIAD CONCERNING THE ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND THE JOINT PLAN OF ARAB ACTION IN CONFRONTING THE NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF LIBERATING THE OCCUPIED LAND AND RESTORING THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF PALESTINE.

" THE COUNCIL CONDEMNED THE INCREASING AMERICAN COMMITMENT TO ISRAELI AGGRESSION AND THE ESCALATION IN THE SUPPLY TO ISRAEL OF THE MOST MODERN OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONRY, WHICH IS TANTAMOUNT TO PARTICIPATION IN ARMED AGGRESSION AGAINST THE ARAB NATION, AND A CHALLENGE TO THE CHARTER AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND WORLD PEACE. END QUOTE.

2. APRIL 8 AHARAM HAD FOLLOWING, SEPARATE ARTICLE:

QUOTE: ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY- GENERAL MAHMOUD RIAD HAS STATED THAT THE ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL, WHICH ENDED ITS SESSIONS YESTERDAY, HAS CATEGORICALLY DEFINED THE PRINCIPAL ENEMY OF THE ARABS-- AMERICA, BY ITS SUPPORT OF ISRAEL. HE SAID THAT THREE QUESTIONS REMAIN TO BE ANSWERED:

A. WHY DO ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE US CONTINUE AS THEY ARE AT PRESENT?

B. WHY DOES ARAB CAPITAL REMAIN ON DEPOSIT IN AMERICAN BANKS?

C. WHY DO THE ARAB STATES DEAL WITH THE US IN DOLLARS?

" RIAD SAID BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETINGS OF THE
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ECONOMIC MINISTERS' COMMITTEE, WHICH WAS SET UP BY THE JOINT

DEFENSE COUNCIL, ' WE KNOW THAT THE SOLUTION CAN BE SUMMARIZED
AS AN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF AMERICA.' END QUOTE.

3. COMMENT: PRESS REPORTING IN PARA ONE ABOVE GENERALLY
PARALLELS REPORTING ON STATEMENTS FORMULATED BY COUNCIL' S
POLITICAL COMMITTEE LAST WEEK (REFTEL). WE UNDERSTAND FROM
ALLINFORMATION DEPARTMENT THAT NO STATEMENT HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY
RELEASED BY LEAGUE. THIS MAY REFLECT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ARAB
STATES ON THEIR POLICIES TOWARDS US. PRESS REPORTING IS NEVER-
THELESS SHARP ATTACK ON US; AND RIAD' S REMARK THAT US IS
PRINCIPAL ENEMY OF ARABS UNDERSCORES THE POINT. ONE MATTER
OF INTEREST IS APPARENT DEVELOPMENT OF GENERAL UNDERSTANDING
THAT ARABS CAN DO DAMAGE TO US BY USING THEIR MONETARY
RESERVES. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE HAVE NOTICED THAT
EGYPTIAN PRESS IN RECENT WEEKS HAS BEGUN TO TURN ITS FOCUS
TOWARDS ARAB MONEY AS POLITICAL WEAPON.
GREENE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO01056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730437/aaaahykj.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 CAIRO 1033
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971212
Subject: ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL DENOUNCES US, CALLS FOR ARAB ECONOMIC POLICY TOWARDS COUNTRIES SUPPORTING ISRAEL
TAGS: PFOR, XF, n/a
To: AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMMAN
BEIRUT
JIDDA
LONDON
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV
TRIPOLI

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005